PROJECT TITLE : ANALYTICAL INVESTIGATIONS

PERIOD COVERED : JANUARY 5 - 28, 1981

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PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION BY GC^2/MS

- A "ghost-peak" which is permanently found in the routine analysis of minor tobacco alcaloids by GC has been identified as anti-oxidants BHT (2.6-di-tert-butyl-4-methyl phenol).

- The purity of a new type of Eastmans Estrobond B has been checked for QC (1). GC^2 analysis shows, in addition to the GPD isomer mixture, a series of contaminations not found in Estrobond B used so far. Identification of compounds by GC^2/MS is in progress.

ORGANIC ACIDS BY GC

The procedure for the formation of ethyl esters of mono-di- and tri-carboxylic acids described by Gloor et al (2) has been investigated (3). After some modifications the ethyl esters of acetic, citric, lactic, malic, succinic fumaric, tartaric and pyruvic acids are now formed in high yield. Separation of esters by GC^2 has been completed. Quantitation of the method is in progress.

REFERENCES

1. Memo from A. Widmer to Y. Genoud - January 19, 1981.
2. R. Gloor and H. Leidner, Chromatography, 9, 618 (1976).
3. E. Lecoultre, PME Research Laboratory, Monthly Progress Report - December 1980.

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